

An. 1700.

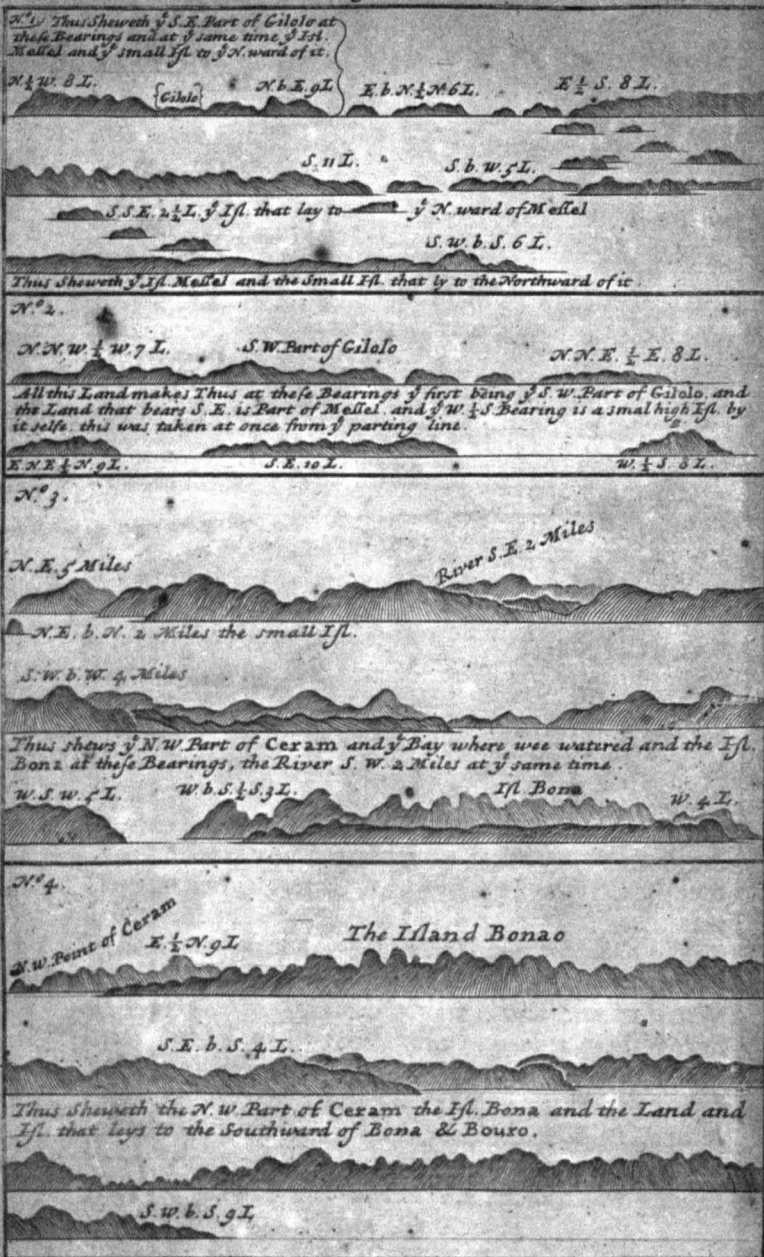


C H A P. V.

The A's return from the Coast of New-Guinea. A deep Channel. Strange Tides. The Island Ceram described. Strange Fowls. The Islands Bonao, Bouro, Misacombi, Pentare, Laubana, and Po-oro. The Passage between Pentare and Laubana. The Island Timor, Babao Bay. The Island Rotte. More Islands than are commonly laid down in the Draughts. Great Currents. Whales. Coast of New-Holland. The Tryal-Rocks. The Coast of Java Princes Isle. Streights of Sunda. Thwart the way Island. Indian Proes, and their Traffick. Passage through the Streight. Arrival at Batavia.

THE Wind seeming to incline to East, as might be expected according to the Season of the Year; I rather chose to shape my Course as these Winds would best permit, than strive to return the same way we came; which, for many Leagues, must have been against this Monsoon: Though indeed on the other hand, the Dangers in that way, we already knew; but what might be in this, by which we now proposed to return, we could not tell.

We were now in a Channel about 8 or 9 Leagues wide, having a Range of Islands on the North-side, and another on the South-side, and very deep Water between, so that we had no Ground. The 22d of April in the Morning, I sent my Boat ashore to an Island on the North-side, and stood that way with the Ship. They found no Ground till within a Cable's length of the Shore, and then had Coral Rocks; so that they could not catch any Fish, though they saw a great many. They brought aboard a small Canoa, which they found a-drift. They met with no Game ashore, save only one party-colour'd Parrakite. The Land is of an indifferent Height;



Height; very Rocky, yet cloathed with tall Trees, *An. 1700.* whose bare Roots run along upon the Rocks. Our People saw a Pond of Salt Water, but found no fresh. Near this Island we met a pretty strong Tide, but found neither Tide nor Current off at some distance.

On the 24th, being about 2 Leagues from an Island to the Southward of us, we came over a Shoal on which we had But 5 Fathom and a half. We did not descric it, till we saw the Ground under us. In less than half an Hour before, the Boat had been sounding in discoloured Water, but had no Ground. We mann'd the Boat presently, and tow'd the Ship about; and then sounding, had 12, 15 and 17 Fathom, and then no Ground with our Hand-lead. The Shoal was rocky; but in 12 and 15 Fathom we had oazy Ground.

We found here very strange Tides, that ran in Streams, making a great Sea; and roaring so loud, that we could hear them before they came within a Mile of us. The Sea round about them seem'd all broken, and tossed the Ship so that she would not answer her Helm. These Riplings commonly lasted 10 or 12 minutes, and then the Sea became as still and smooth as a Mill-pond. We sounded often when in the midst of them, and afterwards in the smooth Water; but found no Ground, neither could we perceive that they drove us any way.

We had in one Night several of these Tides, that came most of them from the West; and the Wind being from that Quarter, we commonly heard them a long time before they came; and sometimes lowered our Top-fails, thinking it was a Gust of Wind. They were of great length from North to South, but their breadth not exceeding 200 Yards, and they drove a great pace: For though we had little Wind to move us, yet these

An. 1700 would soon pass away, and leave the Water very smooth; and just before we encountred them, we met a great Swell, but it did not break.

The 26th we saw the Island *Ceram*; and still met some Riplings, but much fainter than those we had the 2 preceeding Days. We sail'd along the Island *Ceram* to the Westward, edging in withal, to see if peradventure we might find a Harbour to anchor in, where we might water, trim the Ship, and refresh our Men.

In the Morning we saw a Sail to the North of us, steering in for the West-end of *Ceram*, as we likewise were. In the Evening, being near the Shore on the North-side of the Island, I stood off to Sea with an easy Sail; intending to stand in for the Shore in the Morning, and try to find Anchoring, to fill Water, and get a little Fish for refreshment. Accordingly in the Morning early, I stood in with the North-West-point of *Ceram*; leaving a small Island, called *Bonao*, to the West. The Sail we saw the Day before, was now come pretty nigh us, steering in also (as we did) between *Ceram* and *Bonao*. I shortned Sail a little for him; and when he got a-breast of us, not above 2 Miles off, I sent my Boat aboard. It was a *Dutch* Sloop, come from *Terranate*, and bound for *Amboyna*: My Men whom I sent in the Boat, bought 5 Bags of new Rice, each containing about 130 pounds, for 6 *Spanish* Dollars. The Sloop had many rare Parrots aboard for Sale, which did not want price. A *Malayan* Merchant aboard, told our Men, that about 6 Months ago he was at *Bencola*, and at that time the Governour either dyed or was kill'd, and that the Commander of an *English* Ship then in that Road succeeded to that Government.

In the Afternoon, having a Breeze at North and North-North-East, I sent my Boat to sound, and standing after her with the Ship, anchored in



*This Bird was taken on the
Coast of New Guinea*

*A Stately Land Fowl found on the
Coast of New Guinea described
Page 93.*



*A Strange Land
Fowl found on the
Island Ceram.
described Page 165.*



30 Fathom Water oazy Sand, half a Mile from the Shore, right against a small River of fresh Water. The next Morning I sent both the Boats ashore to Fish; they return'd about 10 a-Clock, with a few Mulletts and 3 or 4 Cavalies, and some Pan-Fish. We found Variation here, 2 deg. 15 min. East.

When the Sea was smooth by the Land-Winds, we sent our Boats ashore for Water; who, in a few Turns, filled all our Casks.

The Land here is low, swampy and woody; the Mould is a dark Grey, friable Earth. Two Rivers came out within a Bow-shot of each other, just opposite to the place where we rode: One comes right down out of the Country; and the other from the South, running along by the Shore, not Musquet-shot from the Sea-side. The Northernmost River is biggest, and out of it we filled our Water; our Boats went in and out at any time of Tide. In some places the Land is overflown with fresh Water, at full Sea. The Land hereabouts is full of Trees unknown to us, but none of them very large or high; the Woods yield many wild Fruits and Berries, such as I never saw elsewhere. We met with no Land-Animals. The Fowls we found, were Pidgeons, Parrots, Cockadores, and a great number of small Birds unknown to me. One of the Master's Mates killed 2 Fowls as big as Crows; of a black Colour, excepting that the Tails were all white. Their Necks were pretty long, one of which was of a Saffron-colour, the other Black. They had very large Bills, much like a Rams-horn; their Legs were strong and Short, and their claws like a Pidgeon's; their Wings of an ordinary length: Yet they make a great Noise when they fly, which they do very heavily. They feed on Berries, and perch on the highest Trees. Their Flesh is sweet; I saw some of the same Species at New-Guinea, but no where else.

The Islands Bonao and Bouro.

20 1700. May the 3d, at 6 in the Morning we weighed, intending to pass between *Bonao* and *Ceram*; but presently after we got under Sail, we saw a pretty large Proe coming about the North-West-point of *Ceram*. Wherefore I stood to the North to speak with her, putting aboard our Ensign. She seeing us coming that way, went into a small Creek, and skulked behind a Point a while: At last discovering her again, I sent my Boat to speak with her; but the Proe row'd away, and would not come nigh it. After this, finding I could not pass between *Bonao* and *Ceram*, as I purposed; I steer'd away to the North of it.

This *Bonao* is a small Island, lying about 4 Leagues from the North-West Point of *Ceram*. I was inform'd by the *Dutch* Sloop before-mentioned, that notwithstanding its smallness, it hath one fine River, and that the *Dutch* are there settled. Whether there be any Natives on it, or not, I know not, nor what its Produce is. They further said, that the *Ceramers* were their mortal Enemies; yet that they were settled on the Westernmost Point of *Ceram*, in spite of the Natives.

The next Day, as we approach'd the Island *Bouro*, there came off from it a very fragrant Scent, much like that from *King William's* Island; and we found so strong a Current setting to the Westward, that we could scarce stem it. We plied to get to the Southward, intending to pass between *Bouro* and *Keelang*.

In the Evening, being near the West-end of *Bouro*, we saw a Brigantine to the North-West of us, on the North-side of *Bouro*, standing to the Eastward. I would not stand East or West for fear of coming nigh the Land which was on each side of us, viz. *Bouro* on the West, and *Keelang* on the East. The next Morning we found our selves in Mid-channel between both Islands; and having the

Table XVI Bouzo and other Islands between it and Ambo

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N. 1.

This Isl. makes Thus at these Bearings when y^e Isl. Bona Shews at y^e other side

S. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 11 L.

S. W. b. W. 14 L.

Isl. Bouzo

N. 2.

S. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 5 L.

W. b. S. 5 L.

Ambalane

W. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 12 L.

Thus Shews the Isl. Ambalane and Bouzo at these Bearings

I. Bouzo

N. N. W. 7 L.

N. 3.

E. S. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. 10 L.

Ambo

S. E. 9 L.

S. S. E. 7 L.

S. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. 8 L.

At these Bearings Sheweth y^e Isl. Ambo and y^e Islands as you see to y^e South westward of it.

S. S. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. 9 L.

S. W. 11 L.

S. W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. 12 L.

N. 4.

W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. 11 L.

The Passage wch wee came through

N. W. b. N.

Thus Sheweth y^e Islands Laubana and Panterra at these Bearings wch wee came between at y^e Bearings N. W. b. N. also y^e Islands between that and Ambo as you see.

Part of Ambo.

the Wind at South-West we steer'd South-South-East, which is right through between both. At 11 a-Clock it fell calm, and so continued till Noon; by that time the Brigantine, which we saw a-Stern the Night before, was got 2 or 3 Leagues a-head of us. It is probable she met a strong Land-wind in the Evening, which continued all Night; she keeping nearer the Shore, than I could safely do. She might likewise have a Tide or Current setting Easterly, where she was; though we had a Tide setting Northwardly against us, we being in Mid-channel.

About 8 at Night, the Brigantine which we saw in the Day, came close along by us on our Weather-side: Our Guns were all ready before Night, Matches lighted, and small Arms on the Quarter-Deck ready loaden. She standing one way, and we another; we soon got further asunder. But I kept good watch all the Night, and in the Morning saw her a-Stern of us, standing as we did. At 10 a-Clock, having little Wind, I sent the Yawle aboard of her. She was a Chinese Vessel, laden with Rice, Arack, Tea, Procellane, and other Commodities, bound for *Amboyna*. The Commander said that his Boat was gone ashore for Water, and ask'd our Men if they saw her; for she had been wanting 2 or 3 Days, and they knew not what was become of her. They had their Wives, and Children aboard, and probably came to settle at some new Dutch Factory. The Commander also inform'd us, that the Dutch had lately settled at *Ampulo*, *Menippe*, *Bonao*, and on a Point of *Ceram*. The next Day we past out to the Southward between *Keelang* and *Bouro*. After this, we had for several Days a Current setting Southerly, and a great tumbling Sea, occasion'd more by the strong Current than by Winds, as was apparent by the jumping of its Waves against each other; and by Observation I found

An. 1700. found 25 Miles more Southing then our Course gave us.

On the 14th we discovered the Island *Misacomby*, and the next Day sail'd along to the West on the North-side of the Island. In some Charts it is call'd *Omba*; it is a mountainous Island, spotted with Woods and Savannahs, about 20 Leagues long, and 5 or 6 broad. We saw no signs of Inhabitants on it. We fell in nearest to the West-end of it; and therefore I chose to pass on to the Westward, intending to get through to the Southward between this and the next Isle to the West of it, or between any other 2 Islands to the West, where I should meet with the clearest Passage; because the Winds were now at North-East and East-North-East, and the Isle lies nearly East and West; so that if the Winds continued, I might be a long time in getting to the East-end of it, which yet I knew to be the best Passage. In the Night, being at the West-end, and seeing no clear Passage, I stood off with an easie Sail, and in the Morning had a fine Land-wind, which would have carried us 5 or 6 Leagues to the East, if we had made the best of it; but we kept on only with a gentle Gale, for fear of a Westerly Current. In the Morning, finding we had not met with any Current as we expected; as soon as it was Light, we made Sail to the Westward again.

After Noon, being near the end of the Isle *Pentare*, which lies West from *Misacomby*, we saw many Houses and Plantations in the Country, and many Coco-nut-Trees growing by the Sea-side. We also saw several Boats sailing cross a Bay or Channel at the West-end of *Misacomby*, between it and *Pentare*. We had but little Wind, and that at North, which blows right in, with a Swell rowling in withal; wherefore I was afraid to venture in, though probably there might be good Anchoring, and a Com-
merce

merce with the Natives. I continued steering to the West, because the Night before, at Sun-setting, I saw a small round high Island to the West of Pentare, where I expected a good Passage. An. 1700.

We could not that Day reach the West-end of Pentare, but saw a deep Bay to the West of us, where I thought might be a Passage through, between Pentare and Laubana. But as yet the Lands were shut one within an other, that we could not see any Passage. Therefore I ordered to sail 7 Leagues more Westerly, and lye by till next Day. In the Morning we look'd out for an Opening, but could see none; yet by the distance and bearing of a high round Island called Potoro, we were got to the West of the Opening, but not far from it. Wherefore I tack'd and stood to the East; and the rather, because I had reason to suppose this to be the Passage we came through in the *Cygnat* mentioned in my Voyage round the World; but I was not yet sure of it, because we had rainy Weather, so that we could not now see the Land so well as we did then. We then accidentally saw the Opening, at our first falling in with the Islands; which now was a Work of some time and difficulty to discover. However before 10 a Clock we saw the Opening plain; and I was the more confirm'd in my Knowledge of this Passage, by a Spit of Sand and 2 Islands at the North-East part of its Entrance. The Wind was at South-South-West, and we plied to get through before Night; for we found a good Tide helping us to the South. About 7 or 8 Leagues to the West of us we saw a high round piked Mountain, from whose Top a Smoak seem'd to ascend as from a *Vulcano*. There were 3 other very high piked Mountains, 2 on the East, and 1 on the West of that which smoaked.

In

An. 1700. In our plying to get through between *Pentare* and *Laubana*, we had (as I said) a good Tide or Current setting us to the Southward. And it is to be observed, that near the Shores in these Parts we commonly find a Tide setting Northwardly or Southwardly, as the Land lyes; but the Northwardly Tide sets not above 3 Hours in 12, having little strength; and sometimes it only checks the contrary Current, which runs with great Violence, especially in narrow Passes, such as this, between 2 Islands. It was 12 at Night before we got clear of 2 other small Islands, that lay on the South-side of the Passage; and there we had a very violent Tide setting us through against a brisk Gale of Wind. Notwithstanding which, I kept the Pinnace out, for fear we should be becalm'd. For this is the same place, through which I passed in the Year 1687, mentioned in my Voyage round the World, (*pag. 459.*) Only then we came out between the Western small Island and *Laubana*, and now we came through between the two small Islands. We sounded frequently, but had no Ground. I said there, that we came through between *Omba* and *Pentare*: For we did not then see the Opening between those 2 Islands; which made me take the West-side of *Pentare* for the West-end of *Omba*, and *Laubana* for *Pentare*. But now we saw the Opening between *Omba* and *Pentare*; which was so narrow, that I would not venture through: Besides, I had now discovered my Mistake, and hop'd to meet with the other Passage again, as indeed we did, and found it to be bold from Side to Side, which in the former Voyage I did not know. After we were through, we made the best of our way to *Timor*; and on *May* the 18th in the Morning, we saw it plain, and made the high Land over *Laphao* the *Portuguese* Factory, as also the high Peak

Peak over our first Watering-place, and a small round Island about mid-way between them. An. 1700.

We coasted along the Island *Timor*, intending to touch at *Babao*, to get a little Water and Refreshments. I would not go into the Bay where we first water'd, because of the Currents which there whirl about very strangely, especially at Spring-tides, which were now setting in; besides, the South-East Winds come down in Flaws from the Mountains, so that it would have been very dangerous for us. Wherefore we crowded all the Sail we could, to get to *Babao* before Night, or at least to get Sight of the sandy Island at the Entrance of the Bay; but could not. So we plied all Night; and the next Morning entered the Bay.

There being good Ground all over this Bay, we anchored at 2 a Clock in 30 Fathom Water, soft oozy Ground. And the Morning after I sent my Boat ashore with the Sain to fish. At Noon she return'd and brought enough for all the Ship's Company. They saw an *Indian* Boat at a round rocky Island about a Mile from them.

On the 22d, I sent my Boat ashore again to fish: At Noon she return'd with a few Fish, which serv'd me and my Officers. They catch'd one Whiteing, the first I had seen in these Seas. Our People went over to the rocky Island, and there found several Jarrs of Turtle, and some hanging up a drying, and some Cloaths; their Boat was about a Mile off, striking Turtle. Our Men left all as they found. In the Afternoon a very large Shark came under our Stern; I never had seen any near so big before. I put a Piece of Meat on a Hook for him, but he went a-Stern and return'd no more. About Mid-night, the Wind being pretty moderate, I weigh'd and stood into the Bottom of the Bay, and ran over nearer the South Shore, where I thought to lye and Water, and at convenient Times
get

An. 1700 get Fish for our Refreshment. The next Morning I sent my Pinnace with 2 Hogshheads and 10 Barrecoes for Water; they return'd at Noon with the Casks full of Water, very thick and muddy, but sweet and good. We found Variation, 15 min. West.

This Afternoon, finding that the Breezes were set in here, and that it blew so hard that I could neither fish nor fill Water without much Difficulty and Hazard of the Boat; I resolv'd to be gone, having good Quantity of Water aboard. Accordingly at half an Hour after 2 in the Morning we weigh'd with the Wind at East by South, and stood to Sea. We coasted along by the Island *Rotte*, which is high Land, spotted with Woods and Savannahs. The Trees appear'd small and shrubby, and the Savannahs dry and rusty. All the North-side has sandy Bays by the Sea. We saw no Houses nor Plantations.

The next Day we crowded all the Sail we could to get to the West of all the Isles before Night, but could not; for at 6 in the Evening we saw Land bearing South-West by West. For here are more Islands than are laid down in any Draughts that I have seen. Wherefore I was oblig'd to make a more Westerly Course than I intended, till I judg'd we might be clear of the Land. And when we were so, I could easily perceive by the Ship's Motion. For till then, being under the Lee of the Shore, we had smooth Water; but now we had a troubled Sea which made us dance lustily. This turbulent Sea, was occasion'd in Part by the Current; which setting out slanting against the Wind, was by it raised into short cockling Seas. I did indeed expect a South-West Current here, but not so very strong as we found it.

On the 26th we continued to have a very strong Current setting Southwardly; but on what Point exactly, I know not. Our whole Distance by Log was but 82 Miles, and our Difference of Latitude since Yesterday-noon by Observation 100 Miles, which is 18 Miles more than the whole Distance; and our Course, allowing no Lee-way at all, was South 17 deg. West, which gives but 76 Miles Difference of Latitude, 24 less than we found by Observation. I did expect (as has been said) we might meet a great Current setting to the South Yesterday, because there is a constant Current setting out from among those Islands we pass'd through between *Timor* and the Isles to the West of it, and, 'tis probable, in all the other Openings between the Islands, even from the East-end of *Java* to the End of all that Range that runs from thence, both to the East and West of *Timor*; But being got so far out to Sea as we were, though there may be a very great Current, yet it does not seem probable to me that it should be of so great Strength as we now found: For both Currents and Tides lose their Force in the open Sea, where they have room to spread; and it is only in narrow Places, or near Head-lands, that their Force is chiefly felt. Besides in my Opinion, it should here rather set to the West than South; being open to the narrow Sea, that divides *New-Holland* from the Range of Islands before-mentioned.

The 27th, we found that in the last 24 Hours we had gone 9 Miles less South than the Log gave: So that 'tis probable we were then out of the Southern Current, which we felt so much before. We saw many Tropic-Birds about us. And found Variation 1 deg. 25 min. West.

On *June* the 1st, we saw several Whales, the first we had at this Time seen on the Coast: But when we were here before, we saw many; at which Time

we

An. 1700. we were nearer the Shore than now. The Variation now, was 5 deg. 38 min. West.

I design'd to have made *New-Holland* in about the Latitude of 20 deg. and steer'd Courses by Day to make it, but in the Night could not be so bold; especially since we had sounding. This Afternoon I steer'd in South-West, till 6 a-Clock; then it blowing fresh, and Night coming on, I steer'd West-South-West, till we had 40 Fathom; and then stood West, which Course carries along Shore. In the Morning again from 6 to 12 I steer'd West-South-West, to have made the Land, but, not seeing it, I judged we were to the West of it. Here is very good Soundings on this Coast. When we past this way to the Eastward, we had, near this Latitude of 19 deg. 50 min. 38 Fathom, about 18 Leagues from the Land: But, this Time, we saw not the Land. The next Morning I saw a great many Scuttle-Fish-bones, which was a Sign that we were not far from the Land. Also a great many Weeds continually floating by us.

We found the Variation increase considerably as we went Westward. For on the 3d, it was 6 deg. 10 min. West; on the 4th, 6 deg. 20 min. and on the 6th, 7 deg. 20 min. That Evening we saw some Fowls like *Men of War Birds* flying North-East, as I was told; for I did not see them, having been indisposed these 3 or 4 Days.

On the 11th we found the Variation 8 deg. 1 min. West; on the 12th, 6 deg. 0 min. I kept on my Course to the Westward till the 15th, and then altered it. My Design was to seek for the *Tryal Rocks*; but having been sick 5 or 6 Days, without any fresh Provision or other good Nourishment aboard, and seeing no Likelihood of my Recovery, I rather chose to go to some Port in Time, than to beat here any longer; my People being very negligent, when I was not upon Deck my self: I found the Winds

Winds variable, so that I might go any way, East, West, North, or South; wherefore, its probable I might have found the said Rocks, had not Sickness prevented me; which Discovery (when ever made) will be of great use to Merchants trading to these Parts.

From hence nothing material happened, till we came upon the Coast of *Java*. On the 23d we saw *Princes-Isle* plain, and the Mouth of the Straights of *Sunda*. By my Computation, the Distance between *Timor* and *Princes-Isle*, is 14 deg. 22 min. The next Day in the Afternoon, being abreast of *Crocodile Island*, I steer'd away East-North-East for an Island that lies near Mid-way between *Sumatra* and *Java*, but nearest the *Java* Shore; which is by *English* Men called *Thwart-the-way*. We had but small Winds till about 3 a-Clock, when it freshned, and I was in good Hopes to pass through before Day: But at 9 a Clock the Wind fell, and we got but little. I was then abreast of *Thwart-the-way*, which is a pretty high long Island; but before 11, the Wind turned, and presently afterward it fell calm. I was then about 2 Leagues from the said Island; and, having a strong Current against us, before Day we were driven astern 4 or 5 Leagues. In the Morning we had the Wind at North-North-West; it look'd black and the Wind unsettled: So that I could not expect to get through. I therefore stood toward the *Java* Shore, and at 10 anchored in 24 Fathom Water, black oazy Ground, 3 Leagues from the Shore. I founded in the Night when it was calm, and had 54 Fathom, coarse Sand and Coral.

In the Afternoon before, we had seen many Proes; but none came off to us; and in the Night we saw many Fires ashore. This Day a large Proe came aboard of us, and lay by our Side an Hour. There were only 4 Men in her, all *Javians*, who

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R

spoke

An. 1700 spoke the *Malayan* Language. They ask'd if we were *English*; I answered, we were; and presently one of them came aboard, and presented me with a small Hen, some Eggs and Coco-nuts; for which I gave some Beads and a small Looking-Glass, and some Glass-Bottles. They also gave me some Sugar-canes, which I distributed to such of my Men as were scorbutick. They told me there were 3 *English* Ships at *Batavia*.

The 28th at 2 in the Afternoon we anchored in 26 Fathom Water; presently it fell calm and began to rain very violently, and so continued from 3 till 9 in the Evening. At 1 in the Morning we weigh'd with a fine Land-wind at South-South-East; but presently the Wind coming about at East, we anchored; for we commonly found the Current setting West. If at any Time it turn'd, it was so weak, that it did us little good; and I did not think it safe to venture through without a pretty brisk leading Gale; for the Passage is but narrow, and I knew not what Dangers might be in the way, nor how the Tide sets in the Narrow, having not been this way these 28 Years, and all my People wholly Strangers: We had the Opening fair before us.

While we lay here, 4 *Malayan* Proes came from the Shore, laden with Coco-nuts, Plantains, Bonanoes, Fowls, Ducks, Tobacco, Sugar, &c. These were very welcome, and we purchased much Refreshment of them. At 10 a-Clock I dismiss'd all the Boats, and weigh'd with the Wind at North-West. At half an Hour past 6 in the Evening, we anchored in 32 Fathom Water in a coarse Sort of Oaze. We were now past the Island *Thwart-the-way*, but had still one of the small Islands to pass. The Tide begun to run strong to the West; which obliged me to anchor while I had Soundings, for Fear of being driven back again or on some unknown

known Sand. I lay still all Night. At 5 a Clock *An. 1700.* the next Morning, the Tide began to slacken: At 6, I weigh'd with the Wind at South-East by East, a handfom Breeze. We just weather'd the *Button*; and sounding several Times, had still between 30 and 40 Fathom. When we were abreast of the *Button*, and about 2 Leagues from the Westermost point of *Java*, we had 34 Fathom, small Peppery Sand. You may either come between this Island and *Java*, or, if the Wind is Northerly, run out between the Island *Thwart-the-way* and this last small Island.

The Wind for the most Part being at East and East by South, I was obliged to run over towards the *Sumatra* Shore, sounding as I went, and had from 34 to 23 Fathom. In the Evening I sounded pretty quick, being got near the *Sumatra* Shore; and, finding a Current setting to the West, between 8 and 9 a-Clock we anchored in 34 Fathom. The Tide set to the West from 7 in the Evening to 7 this Morning; and then, having a small Gale at West-South-West, I weigh'd and stood over to the *Java* Shore.

In the Evening having the Wind between East-North-East and South-East by East, we could not keep off the *Java* Shore. Wherefore I anchored in 27 Fathom Water, about a League and a half off Shore. At the same Time we saw a Ship at anchor near the Shore, about 2 Mile to Leeward of us. We found the Tide setting to the Westward, and presently after we anchored it fell calm. We lay still all Night, and saw many Fires ashore. At 5 the next Morning, being *July* the 1st, we weigh'd and stood to the North for a Sea-breeze: At 10 the Wind coming out, I tack'd and had a fine brisk Gale. The Ship we saw at anchor, weigh'd also and stood after us. While we past by *Pulo Baby*, I kept sounding, and had no less than 14 Fathom.

An. 1700.

The other Ship coming after us with all the Sail she could make, I shortned Sail on Purpose that she might overtake us, but she did not. A little after 5, I anchored in 13 Fathom good oazy Ground. About 7 in the Evening, the Ship that followed us, past by close under our Stern; she was a *Dutch* Fly-boat; they told us they came directly from *Holland*, and had been in their Passage six Months. It was now dark, and the *Dutch* Ship anchored within a Mile of us. I order'd to look out sharp in the Morning; that so soon as the *Dutch* Man began to move, we might be ready to follow him; for I intended to make him my Pilot. In the Morning at half an hour after 5 we weigh'd, the *Dutch* Man being under Sail before; and we stood directly after him. At 8, having but little Wind, I sent my Boat aboard of him, to see what News he had brought from *Europe*. Soon after, we spied a Ship coming from the East, plying on a Wind to speak with us, and shewing *English* Colours. I made a Signal for my Boat, and presently bore away towards her; and being pretty nigh, the Commander and Super-cargoe came aboard, supposing we had been the *Tuscan* Galley, which was expected then at *Batavia*. This was a Country Ship, belonging to Fort St. *George*, having come out from *Batavia* the Day before, and bound to *Bencola*. The Commander told me that the *Fleet-frigate* was at Anchor in *Batavia* Road, but would not stay there long: He told me also, that his Majesty's Ships commanded by Captain *Warren* were still in *India*, but he had been a great while from the Coast and had not seen them. He gave me a Draught of these Streights, from the *Button* and *Cap* to *Batavia*, and shew'd me the best way in thither. At 11 a Clock, it being calm, I anchored in 14 Fathom good oazy Ground.

At

At 2 a Clock we weigh'd again ; the *Dutch Ship* An. 1700.
 being under Sail before, standing close to *Mansbeters*
Island ; but finding he could not weather it, he
 tack'd and stood off a little while, and then tack'd
 again. In the mean Time I stood pretty nigh the
 said *Island*, sounding, but could not weather it.
 Then I tack'd and stood off, and the *Dutch* stood
 in towards the *Island* ; and weathered it. I being de-
 sirous to have room enough, stood off longer, and
 then went about, having the *Dutch Ship* 4 Points
 under my Lee. I kept after him ; but as I came
 nearer the *Island*, I found a Tide setting to the
 West, so that I could not weather it. Wherefore
 at 6 in the Evening I anchored in 7 Fathom oazy
 Ground, about a Mile from the *Island* : The *Dutch*
Ship went about 2 Miles further, and anchored al-
 so ; and we both lay still all Night. At 5 the next
 Morning we weigh'd again, and the *Dutch Ship*
 stood away between the *Island Cambuffes* and the
 Main ; but I could not follow, because we had a
 Land-wind. Wherefore I went without the *Cambuf-*
ses, and by Noon we saw the Ships that lay at the
 careening *Island* near *Batavia*. After the Land-
 wind was spent, which we had at South-East and
 South-South-East ; the Sea-breeze came up at East.
 Then we went about ; and the Wind coming after-
 ward at East-North-East, we had a large Wind to
 run us into *Batavia Road* : And at 4 in the After-
 noon, we anchored in 6 Fathom soft Oaze.

An. 1700.



C H A P. VI.

The A. continues in Batavia-Road to rest, and so get Provisions. English Ships then in the Road. Departure from Batavia. Touch at the Cape of Good Hope. And at St. Helena. Arrival at the Island of Ascension. A Leak Sprung. Which being impossible to be stopped; the Ship is lost, but the Men saved. They find Water upon the Island. And are brought back to England.

WE found in *Batavia Road* a great many Ships at anchor, most *Dutch*, and but one *English Ship* named the *Fleet-frigate*, commanded by one *Merry*. We rode a little without them all. Near the Shore lay a stout *China Junk*, and a great many small Vessels, viz. *Brigantines*, *Sloops* and *Malayan Proes* in abundance. Assoon as I anchored, I sent my Boat aboard the *Fleet-frigate*, with orders to make them strike their Pendant, which was done soon after the Boat went aboard. Then my Clerk, whom I sent in the Boat, went for the Shore, as I had directed him; to see if the Government would answer my Salute: But it was now near Night, and he had only time to speak with the *Ship-bander*, who told him that the Government would have answered my Salute with the same number of Guns, if I had fired as soon as I anchored; but that now it was too late. In the Evening my Boat came aboard, and the next Morning I my self went ashore, visited the *Dutch General*, and desir'd the Priviledge of buying such Provision and Stores, as I now wanted; which he granted me.

I lay here till the 17th of *October* following, all which time we had very fair Weather, some Tornadoes excepted. In the mean time I supplied the
Carpenter

An. 1700.

Carpenter with such Stores as were necessary for re-fitting the Ship; which prov'd more leaky after he had caulk'd Her, then she was before: So that I was obliged to carreen her, for which purpose I hired Vessels to take in our Guns, Ballast, Provision and Stores.

The *English* Ships that arriv'd here from *England*, were first the *Liampo*, commanded by Captain *Monk*, bound for *China*; next, the *Pantber*, commanded by Captain *Robinson*; then the *Mancel-Frigat*, commanded by Captain *Clerk*. All these brought good Tidings from *England*. Most of them had been unfortunate in their Officers; especially Captain *Robinson*, who said that some of them had been conspiring to ruin him and his Voyage. There came in also several *English* Country Vessels; first a Sloop from *Ben-jarr*, commanded by one *Ruffel*, bound to *Bengale*; next, the *Monsoon*, belonging to *Bengale*: She had been at *Malacca* at the same time that his Majesty Ship the *Harwich* was there: Afterwards came in also another small Ship from *Bengale*.

While we stay'd here, all the forenamed *English* Ships sail'd hence; the 2 *Bengale* Ships excepted. Many *Dutch* Ships also came in here, and departed again before us. We had several Reports concerning our Men of War in *India*, and much talk concerning Rovers who had committed several Spoils upon the Coast, and in the Streights of *Malacca*. I did not hear of any Ships sent out to quash them. At my first coming in, I was told that 2 Ships had been sent from *Amboyna* in quest of me; which was lately confirm'd by one of the Skippers, whom I by accident met with here. He told me they had 3 Protefts against me; that they came to *Pulo-Sabuda* on the Coast of *New-Guinnea* 28 Days after my departure thence, and went as far as *Scouten's Island*, and hearing no further News of me,

Apr. 1700. return'd. Something likewise to this purpose Mr. *Merry*, Commander of the *Fleet-frigate*, told me at my first arrival here; and that the General at *Batavia* had a Copy of my Commission and Instructions; but I look'd upon it as a very improbable thing.

While we lay here, the *Dutch* held several Consultations about sending some Ships for *Europe* sooner than ordinary: At last the 16th of *October* was agreed upon for the Day of Sailing, which is 2 Months sooner than usual. They lay ready 2 or 3 Days before, and went out on the 10th. Their Names were, the *Ostresteen*, bound to *Zealand*; the *Vanbeusen*, for *Enchieboust*; and the 3 *Crowns*, for *Amsterdam*, commanded by Skipper *Jacob Unright*, who was Commadore over all the rest. I had by this time finished my Business here, viz. fitted the Ship, recruited my self with Provision, filled all my Water; and the time of the Year to be going for *Europe* being now at hand, I prepar'd to be gone also.

Accordingly on the 17th of *October*, at half an Hour after 6 in the Morning, I weigh'd Anchor from *Batavia*, having a good Land-wind at South, and fair Weather: And by the 19th at Noon, came up with the 3 *Dutch* Ships before-mentioned. The 29th of *November* in the Morning we saw a small Hawk flying about the Ship till she was quite tired. Then she rested on the Mizen-Top-Sail-Yard, where we catch'd her. It is probable she was blown off from *Madagascar* by the violent Northerly Winds; that being the highest Land to us, though distance near 150 Leagues.

The 30th of *December*, we arrived at the *Cape of Good Hope*; and departed again on the 11th of *January* 1701. About the end of the Month, we saw abundance of Weeds or Blubber swim by us, for I cannot determine which. It was all of one Shape

The Island of Ascension. A Leak sprung. 249

Shape and Colour. As they floated on the Water, ^{An 1700} they seem'd to be of the breadth of the Palm of a Man's Hand, spread out round into many Branches about the Bigness of a Man's Finger. They had in the middle a little Knob, no bigger than the Top of a Mans Thumb. They were of a Smoak-colour; and the Branches, by their pliantness in the Water, seem'd to be more simple than Gellies, I have not seen the like before.

The 2d of *February*, we anchored in *St. Helena Road*, and set sail again from thence on the 13th.

On the 21st we made the *Island of Ascension*, and stood in towards it. The 22d between 8 and 9 a-Clock, we sprung a Leak; which increased so that the Chain-pump could not keep the Ship free. Whereupon I set the Hand-pump to work also, and by 10 a-Clock suck'd her: Then wore the Ship, and stood to the Southward, to try if that would ease her; and then the Chain-pump just kept her free. At 5 the next Morning we made Sail and stood in for the Bay; and at 9 anchored in 10 and a half Fathom, sandy Ground. The South-point bore South-South-West distance 2 Miles, and the North-point of the Bay, North-East half North, distance 2 Miles. As soon as we anchored, I ordered the Gunner to clear his Powder-room, that we might there search for the Leak, and endeavour to stop it within board if possible; for we could not heel the Ship so low, it being within 4 Streaks of the Keel; neither was there any convenient place to haul her ashore. I ordered the Boatswain to assist the Gunner; and by 10 a-Clock the Powder-room was clear. The Carpenter's Mate, Gunner, and Boatswain went down; and soon after I followed them my self, and ask'd them whether they could come at the Leak: They said they believed they might, by cutting the Cieling; I told the Carpenter's Mate (who was the only Person in the Ship

An. 1700. Ship that understood any Thing of Carpenters-work, } that if he thought he could come at the Leak by cutting the Cieling without weakening the Ship, he might do it; for he had stopp'd one Leak so before; which though not so big as this, yet having seen them both, I thought he might as well do this as the other. Wherefore I left him to do his best. The Ceiling being cut, they could not come at the Leak; for it was against one of the *Foot-hook-Timbers*, which the Carpenter's Mate said he must first cut, before it could be stopp'd. I went down again to see it, and found the Water to come in very violently. I told them I never had known any such thing as cutting Timbers to stop Leaks; but if they who ought to be best Judges in such Cases, thought they could do any good, I bid them use their utmost Care and Diligence, promising the Carpenter's Mate that I would always be a Friend to him if he could and would stop it: He said, by 4 a-Clock in the Afternoon he would make all well, it being then about 11 in the Forenoon. In the Afternoon my Men were all employ'd, pumping with both Pumps; except such as assisted the Carpenter's Mate. About one in the Afternoon I went down again, and the Carpenter's Mate was cutting the After-part of the Timber over the Leak. Some said it was best to cut the Timber away at once; I bid them hold their Tongue, and let the Carpenter's Mate alone; for he knew best, and I hop'd he would do his utmost to stop the Leak. I desir'd him to get every thing ready for stopping the violence of the Water, before he cut any further; for fear it should over-power us at once. I had already ordered the Carpenter to bring all the Oakum he had, and the Boatswain to bring all the waste Cloaths, to stuff in upon Occasion; and had for the same purpose sent down my own Bed-cloaths. The Carpenter's Mate said he should want short

short Stantions, to be placed so that the upper-end should touch the Deck, and the under-part rest on what was laid over the Leak; and presently took a Length for them. I ask'd the Master-Carpenter what he thought best to be done: He replied till the Leak was all open, he could not tell. Then he went away to make a Stantion, but it was too long: I ordered him to make many of several Lengths, that we might not want of any Size. So, once more desiring the Carpenter's Mate to use his utmost Endeavours, I went up, leaving the Boatswain and some others there. About 5 a Clock the Boatswain came to me, and told me the Leak was increased, and that it was impossible to keep the Ship above Water; when on the contrary I expected to have had the News of the Leak's being stoppt. I presently went down, and found the Timber cut away, but nothing in Readiness to stop the Force of the Water from coming in. I ask'd them why they would cut the Timber, before they had got all Things in Readiness: The Carpenter's Mate answered, they could do nothing till the Timber was cut, that he might take the Dimensions of the Place; and that there was a Chaulk which he had lined out, preparing by the Carpenter's Boy. I ordered them in the mean Time to stop in Oakum, and some Pieces of Beef; which accordingly was done, but all to little Purpose: For now the Water gush'd in with such Violence, notwithstanding all our Endeavours to check it, that it flew in over the Ceiling; and for want of Passage out of the Room overflow'd it above 2 Foot deep. I ordered the Bulk-head to be cut open, to give Passage to the Water that it might drain out of the Room; and withal ordered to clear away abaft the Bulk-head, that we might bail: So now we had both Pumps going, and as many bailing as could; and by this Means the Water began to decrease; which gave me some
Hope

An. 1700. Hope of saving the Ship. I ask'd the Carpenter's Mate, what he thought of it; He said, *Fear not; for by 10 a Clock at Night I'll engage to stop the Leak.* I went from him with a heavy Heart; but putting a good Countenance upon the Matter, encouraged my Men, who pump'd and bail'd very briskly; and, when I saw Occasion, I gave them some Drams to comfort them. About 11 a Clock at Night, the Boatswain came to me, and told me, that the Leak still encreased; and that the Plank was so rotten, it broke away like Dirt; and that now it was impossible to save the Ship; for they could not come at the Leak, because the Water in the Room was got above it. The rest of the Night we spent in Pumping and Bailing. I worked my self to encourage my Men, who were very diligent; but the Water still encreas'd, and we now thought of nothing but saving our Lives. Wherefore I hoisted out the Boat, that, if the Ship should sink, yet we might be saved: And in the Morning we weigh'd our Anchor, and warp'd in nearer the Shore; yet did but little good.

In the Afternoon, with the Help of a Sea-breeze, I ran into 7 Fathom, and anchored; then carried a small Anchor ashore, and warp'd in till I came into 3 Fathom and a half. Where having fastned her, I made a Raft to carry the Men's Chests and Bedding ashore; and, before 8 at Night, most of them, were ashore. In the Morning I ordered the Sails to be unbent, to make Tents; and then my self and Officers went ashore. I had sent ashore a Puncheon, and a 36 Gallon Cask of Water, with one Bag of Rice for our common use: But great Part of it was stolen away, before I came ashore; and many of my Books and Papers lost.

On the 26th following, we, to our great Comfort, found a Spring of fresh Water, about 8 Miles from our Tents, beyond a very high Mountain, which

which we must pass over: So that now we were, by *An. 1700.* God's Providence, in a Condition of subsisting some Time; having Plenty of very good Turtle by our Tents, and Water for the fetching. The next Day I went up to see the Watering-place, accompanied with most of my Officers. We lay by the way all Night, and next Morning early got thither; where we found a very fine Spring on the South-East-side of the high Mountain, about half a Mile from its Top: But the continual Fogs make it so cold here, that it is very unwholsome living by the Water. Near this Place, are Abundance of Goats and Land-crabs. About 2 Mile South-East from the Spring, we found 3 or 4 shrubby Trees, upon one of which was cut an Anchor and Cable, and the Year 1642. About half a Furlong from these, we found a convenient Place for sheltering Men in any Weather. Hither many of our Men resorted; the hollow Rocks affording convenient Lodging; the Goats, Land-crabs, *Men of War Birds*, and Boobies, good Food; and the Air was here exceeding wholsome.

About a Week after our coming ashore, our Men that liv'd at this new Habitation, saw 2 Ships making towards the Island. Before Night they brought me the News; and I ordered them to turn about a Score of Turtle, to be in Readiness for their Ships if they should touch here: But before Morning they were out of Sight, and the Turtle were releas'd again. Here we continued without seeing any other Ship till the second of *April*; when we saw 11 Sail to Windward of the Island: But they likewise past by. The Day after appear'd 4 Sail, which came to anchor in this Bay. They were his Majesty's Ships the *Anglesey*, *Hastings* and *Lizard*; and the *Canterbury East-India* Ship. I went on board the *Anglesey* with about 35 of my Men;

Jan. 1700. Men; and the rest were dispos'd of into the other
2 Men of War.

We sail'd from *Ascension*, the 8th; and continued aboard till the 8th of *May*: At which Time the Men of War having mils'd *St. Jago*, where they design'd to Water, bore away for *Barbadoes*: But I being desirous to get to *England* as soon as possible, took my Passage in the Ship *Canterbury*, accompanied with my Master, Purser, Gunner, and 3 of my superiour Officers.



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F I N I S.

A NEW
VOYAGE
AND
DESCRIPTION
OF THE
ISTHMUS of AMERICA.

Giving an ACCOUNT of the

AUTHOR'S Abode there,

The *Form and Make* of the Country, the *Coasts, Hills, Rivers, &c. Woods, Soil, Weather, &c. Trees, Fruit, Beasts, Birds, Fish, &c.*

The *Indian Inhabitants*, their *Features, Complexion, &c. their Manners, Customs, Employments, Marriages, Feasts, Hunting, Computation, Language, &c.*

With *Remarkable Occurrences* in the *South-Sea* and elsewhere.

By *LIONEL WAFER.*

The THIRD EDITION.

To which are added,

The *NATURAL HISTORY* of those *PARTS,*
By a Fellow of the ROYAL SOCIETY:

AND

Davis's Expedition to the Gold Mines, in 1702.

Illustrated with several COPPER-PLATES.

L O N D O N,

Printed for JAMES and JOHN KNAPTON, at the
Crown in *St. Paul's Church-Yard.* MDCCLXXIX.



TO HIS GRACE

JOHN Duke of MARLBOROUGH, *Marquess of Blanford, Earl of Marlborough, Baron Churchill of Sandridge, and Lord Churchill of Aymouth in Scotland, Captain-General of Her Majesty's Forces, Master-General of the Ordinance, Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary to the States-General, One of Her Majesty's most Honourable Privy-Council, and Knight of the most Noble Order of the Garter.*

May it please Your GRACE,

THE ensuing Treatise, is a Second Edition of my Account of the *Isthmus of Darien*, with Additions; which I publish at this Time, not so much because the first Impression is wholly sold off, as chiefly to give Occasion to the Ministry (whereof your GRACE holds no small Share) to think of making a Settlement on one of the most valuable Spots of Ground in the World, thereby either to enhance a Part of the Mines, which are lodg'd in its Bowels, or entirely to banish thence the Enemy, who is now possess'd of them; besides, that by such a Settlement, a free Passage by Land from the *Atlantick* to the *South-Sea* might easily be effected, which would be of the greatest Consequence to the *East-India Trade*.

The DEDICATION.

THE Misfortune, My Lord, of the *Scots* in this Design, can be no Discouragement to *England*, considering that we have at Hand, within our own Plantations, Provisions, and every Thing useful for Subsistence, which they wanted: And their Escapes will furnish us with Precautions, by which we may avoid their Misfortunes. I can assure your GRACE, that a Friendship may be easily cultivated with the *Natives*, who are entirely in our Interest. And besides the peculiar Advantage of such a Settlement, *England* would derive by their Vicinity to *Portobel*, and *Carthagena*, a ready Sale for their Slaves brought from the Coast of *Africa*.

THE *French*, My Lord, being now our Rivals for this Settlement, it highly imports *England* to prevent them, by endeavouring to become Masters of this Neck of Land, of which being once possessed, they may command those inexhaustible Treasures, which at Pleasure give either Peace or War.

AND how easily that might be effected, will easily appear, if your GRACE will be but pleas'd to take Notice, with how little Difficulty Captain *Rash* and his Associates made themselves Masters of all those Mines with a Handful of Men, and in a very inconsiderable Space of Time, according to the particular Relation given of that Expedition, inserted by Mr. *Davis* at the End of this Book.

THIS true, my Lord, they had a pretty uneasy Passage through those Rivers, Woods and Mountains in the By-ways, by which the Smallness of their Number oblig'd them to march, the better to prevent a Discovery. But if their Forces had been more considerable, they would have lain under no Necessity of taking such troublesome Precautions; and thereby would have avoided the manifold
Toils

Toils and Fatigues to which they happen'd to be expos'd.

THE High-Post of Honour your GRACE now enjoys, and whereto your Merits do so justly entitle you, has given me the Boldness to shelter this small Work under your GRACE's Name; believing it Natural for your GRACE to make a right Judgment, whether the Thing herein recommended be well grounded, and will answer the End proposed.

I AM not insensible, My Lord, that this Address is as much a Preface as a Dedication; but considering that your GRACE's Hours are not to be taken up with Trifles, I was the easier led to give your GRACE, at one View, my main Design in this Publication.

I HUMBLY beg your GRACE, to vouchsafe the Honour of your Protection to my plain and honest Intentions, for the Welfare and Advantage of my Country, being with all imaginable Respect,

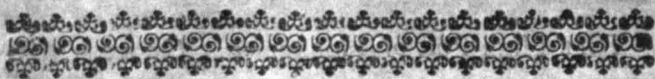
May it please your GRACE,

Your GRACE's most Humble,

and most Devoted Servant,

LIONEL WAFER.

TO



TO THE READER.

THE Design of this Second Publication of my Description of the Isthmus of Darien, *Improv'd with a Late Expedition to the Gold-Mines, since the Beginning of the present War; and also with the Natural History of those Parts; giving an Account of several Beasts, Birds, Fishes, Reptiles, &c. and particularly many Trees, Shrubs and Herbs, with their respective Names, Uses and Virtues; communicated by a Fellow of the Royal Society, being only to represent to the World, how far it would be the Interest of England to make an Establishment upon that Continent; the Product of whose Bowels enriches the other Three Parts of the World.* Because I am unwilling to weary the Reader with a tedious Discourse upon this Subject, I shall only tell him, in few Words, that if I plainly demonstrate the Thing might be very easily effected, and that the Advantages that would thereby accrue to the Nation, would more than answer their Charges, I think there will remain but little to be said against so glorious an Undertaking.

That such a Thing might be successfully performed by the English in this present Conjuncture; and that they would easily be able to maintain themselves in the Possession of that valuable Conquest, notwithstanding the greatest Efforts that the French could be able to make against them, can scarce well be denied by any Man that will be at the Pains to consider, that we being vastly superior

perious to them by Sea, whatever Number of Land-Forces they might be in a Condition to spare from Europe, 'tis our own Fault if ever they transport them thither. And as to the Number of Men that such an Expedition would require of us, considering the favourable Disposition of the Indians (who are entirely our Friends) and the Weakness and Divisions of our Enemies, the Spaniards, I believe it needed not be so considerable as some People are apt to apprehend.

For the American Spaniards, accustomed only to domineer and tyrannize their miserable Slaves, have now languish'd such a considerable Time in Sloth and Idleness, that it would require some Years to innure them to the Hardships and Fatigues of War: And under their present Circumstances, who knows but we might find them less averse to give the English a kind Reception than we are now aware of?

The Vicinity of the English Colonies to the Spanish in America would render it an easy Matter to them to support one another upon all Occasions; though the Benefits that the Kingdom would thereby reap, be in themselves apparent, beyond all Possibility of Contradiction. To conclude: I shall only desire all Men of Sense and Judgment to consider how much the Interest of England would be advanced in Europe by the Addition of the Spanish West-Indies, to their other Acquisitions in America; since thereby the common Enemies would be deprived of the most certain Fund they have for carrying on the War. In a Word; the Difficulty and Expence are not at all, by any reasonable Man, to be brought in Competition with the Glory and Advantage of such an Expedition.

As to the Book it self, though it partly bears the Name of Voyages, you are not to expect a compleat Journal, or Historical Account of all Occurrences in the Scene of my Travels, but principally as particular a Description as I could give, of the Isthmus of Darien, where I was left amongst the wild Indians: For in the precedent

The P R E F A C E.

Precedent and subsequent Relations, I have only briefly represented the Course of my Voyages, that the Reader might not be deprived of the Pleasure of knowing by what Adventure I happen'd to fall into that Country, and how I found Means to make my Escape out of it.

There now remains but one Thing to be said; and that is, to tell you, that I think it very convenient to take this Opportunity of vindicating my self to the World, concerning some Circumstances in the Relation I have given of the Indian way of conjuring (called by them Pawawing) and of the White Indians; at which several of the most eminent Men of the Nation seem'd very much startled. But I hope that the Testimony of all the Scotch Gentlemen and others, who have been there since me, will be look'd upon by all good Men, as a sufficient Authority to confirm the Truth of what I have asserted concerning those Matters; since none of them, neither by their Writings, nor otherway, have contradicted me; but, on the contrary, confirmed what I have said in every Article, which has been no small Satisfaction to me. And Mr. Davis likewise (who is the Author of the foresaid Relation of the Late Expedition to the Gold Mines) desired me, in a late Conference I had with him, to acquaint the World, that if the said Relation had not been printed off before I talk'd with him about it, he would himself have given a large Account of it; declaring, that the Pawawing of the Indians that follow'd Don Pedro in that Expedition, was the principal Reason that induc'd some of the English, who were more superstitious than others, to leave the Mines much sooner than they at first intended to have done; because the Uneasiness in which the Indians then seem'd to be, made them likewise apprehensive of some extraordinary Danger from the Spaniards.

Mr.



*Mr. WAFER's Voyages; and
Description of the Isthmus of
America.*

MY first going abroad was in the *Great Anne* The A's
of London, Capt. *Zachary Browne* Comman- first Voy-
der, bound for *Bantam* in the Isle of *Java*, age.
in the *East-Indies*; in the Year 1677. I was in the
Service of the Surgeon of the Ship; but being then
very young, I made no great Observations in that
Voyage. My Stay at *Bantam* was not above a Bantam.
Month, we being sent from thence to *Jamby* in
the Isle of *Sumatra*. At that Time there was a
War between the *Malayans* of *Iibor* on the Promon- Iibor.
tary of *Malacca*, and those of *Jamby*; and a Fleet Malacca.
of Proe's from *Iibor* block'd up the Mouth of the
River of *Jamby*. The Town of *Jamby* is about 100 Jamby.
Mile up the River: But within 4 or 5 Mile of the
Sea, it hath a Port Town on the River, consisting
of about 15 or 20 Houses, built on Posts, as the
Fashion of that Country is: The Name of this
Port is *Quolla*; though this seems rather an Appella- Quolla.
tive than a proper Name, for they generally call a
Port *Quolla*: And 'tis usual with our *English* Sea-
men in those Parts, when they have been at a Land-
ing-place, to say they have been at the *Quolla*, call-
ing it so in Imitation of the Natives; as the *Portu-*
gucze call their Landing-places, *Barcadero's*. This Barcadero.
War was some Hindrance to our Trade there; and
we were forc'd to stay about 4 Months in the Road,
before we could get in our Lading of Pepper: And
thence

thence we return'd to *Bantam*, to take in the rest of our Lading. While I was ashore there, the Ship sail'd for *England*: So I got a Passage home in another Ship, the *Bombay*, Capt. *White* Commander; who being Chief Mate, succeeded Capt. *Bennet*, who dy'd in the Voyage.

The A's
2d. Voy-
age.

I arrived in *England* again in the Year 1679, and after about a Month's Stay, I entred my self on a 2d Voyage, in a Vessel commanded by Capt. *Buckenham*, bound for the *West-Indies*. I was there also in the Service of the Surgeon of the Ship: But when

Jamaica.

we came to *Jamaica*, the Season of Sugars being not yet come, the Captain was willing to make a short Voyage, in the mean while to the Bay of *Campeachy*, to fetch Logwood: But having no Mind to go further with him, I staid in *Jamaica*. It proved well for me that I did so; for in that Expedition, the Captain was taken by the *Spaniards*, and carried Prisoner to *Mexico*: Where one *Russel* saw him, who was then also a Prisoner there, and after made his Escape. He told me he saw Capt. *Buckenham*, with a Log chain'd to his Leg, and a Basket at his Back, crying Bread about the Streets for a Baker his Master. The *Spaniards* would never consent to the ransoming him, though he was a Gentleman who had Friends of a considerable Fortune, and would have given them a very large Sum of Mony.

Capt.
Bucken-
ham's
share
Fortune.

The An-
gels Plan-
tation.
Port-Roy-
al.

I had a Brother in *Jamaica*, who was employed under Sir *Thomas Muddisford*, in his Plantation at the *Angels*: And my chief Inducement in undertaking this Voyage was to see him. I staid some time with him, and he settled me in a House at *Port-Royal*, where I followed my Business of Surgery for some Months. But in a while I met with Capt. *Cook*, and Capt. *Lynch*, 2 Privateers who were going out from *Port-Royal*, toward the Coast of *Cartagena*, and took me along with them. We met other Privateers, on that Coast; but being parted from them

Cartagena

by

by Strefs of Weather about *Golden-Island*, in the *Samballoe's*, we stood away to the *Bastimento's*, ^{Golden-I.} where we met them again, and several others, who ^{Basti-} had been at the taking of *Portobel*, and were rendes- ^{mento's} vouzed there. Here I first met with Mr. *Dampier*, ^{Portobel.} and was with him in the Expedition into the *S. Seas*. ^{Mr. Dampier.} For in short, having muster'd up our Forces at *Golden-Island*, and landed on the *Isthmus*, we march'd ^{Isthmus;} over Land, and took *Santa Maria*; and made those ^{Santa} Excursions into the *S. Seas*, which Mr. *Ringrose* re- ^{Maria;} lates in the 44th Part of the *History* of the *Bucca-* ^{S. Seas.} *niers*. ^{Hist. of} ^{the Buc.}

Mr. *Dampier* has told, in his *Introduction* to his *Mr. Dampier's* Voyage *Round the World*, in what Manner the Com- ^{pier.} pany divided with Reference to Capt. *Sharp*. I was ^{Capt.} of Mr. *Dampier's* Side in that Matter, and of the ^{Sharp.} Number of those who chose rather to return in Boats to the *Isthmus*, and go back again a toilsome ^{Isthmus;} Journey over Land, than stay under a Captain in whom we experienc'd neither Courage nor Conduct. He hath given also an Account of what befel us in that Return, till such Time as by the Carelessness of our Company, my Knee was so scorch'd with Gunpowder, that after a few Days further March, I was left behind among the *Wild-Indians*, in the *Isthmus* of *Darien*.

It was the 5th Day of our Journey when this Ac- ^{The A.} cident befel me; being also the 5th of *May*, in the ^{left in the} Year 1681. I was sitting on the Ground near one ^{Isthmus.} of our Men, who was drying of Gunpowder, in a Silver Plate: But not managing it as he should, it blew up and scorch'd my Knee to that Degree, that ^{His Knee} the Bone was left bare, the Flesh being torn away, ^{burnt,} and my Thigh burnt for a great Way above it. I applyed to it immediately such Remedies as I had in my Knapfack: And being unwilling to be left behind my Companions, I made hard Shift to jog on, and bear them Company for a few Days; during which

which our Slaves ran away from us, and among them a Negro whom the Company had allow'd me for my particular Attendant, to carry my Medicines. He took them away with him, together with the rest of my Things, and thereby left me depriv'd of wherewithal to dress my Sore; inso-much that my Pain increasing upon me, and being not able to trudge it further through Rivers and Woods, I took leave of my Company, and set up my Rest among the *Darien* Indians.

This was on the 10th Day; and there staid with
R. Gopson. me Mr. *Richard Gopson*, who had served an Apprenticeship to a Druggist in *London*. He was an ingenious Man, and a good Scholar; he had with him a *Greek* Testament which he frequently read, and would translate *extempore* into *English* to such of the Company as were dispos'd to hear him. Another who staid behind with me was *John Hingson* Mariner: They were both so fatigued with the Journey, that they could go no further. There had been an Order made among us at our first Landing to kill any who should flag in the Journey: But this was made only to terrify any from loitering, and being taken by the *Spaniards*; who by Tortures might extort from them a Discovery of our March. But this rigorous Order was not executed; but the Company took a very kind Leave both of these, and of me. Before this we had lost the Company of 2 more of our Men, *Robert Spratlin* and *William Bowman*, who parted with us at the River *Congo*, the Day after my being scorch'd with Gun-powder. The Passage of that River was very deep, and the Stream violent; by which Means I was born down the Current, for several Paces, to an Eddy in the bending of the River. Yet I got over; but these two being the hindmost, and seeing with what Difficulty I cross'd the River, which was still rising, they were discourag'd from attempting it, and chose rather

rather to stay where they were. These 2 came to me; and the other 2 soon after the Company's Departure for the North Sea, as I shall have Occasion to mention; so that there were 5 of us ⁱⁿ all who were left behind among the *Indians*.

Being now forc'd to stay among them, and ha-^{The Indi-}ving no Means to alleviate the Anguish of my ^{ans cure} Wound, the *Indians* undertook to cure me; and apply'd to my Knee some Herbs, which they first chew'd in their Mouths to the Consistency of a Paste, and putting it on a Plantain-Leaf, laid it upon the Sore. This prov'd so effectual, that in about 20 Days Use of this Poulter's, which they applied fresh every Day, I was perfectly cured; except only a Weakness in that Knee, which remain'd long after, and a Benumbedness which I sometimes find in it to this Day. Yet they were not altogether so kind in other Respects; for some of them look'd on us very scurvily, throwing green Plantains to us, as we sat cringing and shivering, as you would Bones to a Dog. This was but sorry Food; yet we were forc'd to be contented with it: But to mend our ^{A kind} Commons, the young *Indian*, at whose House we ^{Indian.}were left, would often give us some ripe Plantains, unknown to his Neighbours; and these were a great Refreshment to us. This *Indian*, in his Childhood was taken Prisoner by the *Spaniards*; and having liv'd some time among them, he had learn'd a pretty deal of their Language, under the Bishop of *Panama*, whom he serv'd there; till finding Means to escape, he was got again among his own Countrymen. This was of good Use to us; for we having a smattering of *Spanish*, and a little of the *Indian's* Tongue also, by passing their Country before, between both these, and with the additional Use of Signs, we found it no very difficult Matter to understand one another. He was truly generous and hospitable towards us; and so careful of us, that if in the

the other was that kind *Indian*, who was so much our Friend as to rise in the Night and get us ripe Plantains.

Bad Travelling.

The next Day therefore we were dismissed with our 2 Guides, and marched joyfully for 3 Days; being well assured we should not find that our Men had done any Hurt to their Guides. The first 3 Days we march'd through nothing but Swamps, having great Rains, with much Thundering and Lightning; and lodg'd every Night under the dropping Trees, upon the cold Ground. The third Night we lodg'd on a small Hill, which by the next Morning was become an Island: For those great Rains had made such a Flood, that all the low Land about it was cover'd deep with Water. All this while we had no Provision, except a Handful of dry Maiz our *Indian* Guides gave us the first 2 Days: But this being spent, they return'd Home again, and left us to shift for our selves.

At this Hill we remain'd the 4th Day; and on the 5th, the Waters being abated, we set forward, steering North by a Pocket Compass, and marched till 6 a Clock at Night: At which Time we arrived at a River about 40 Foot wide, and very deep. Here we found a Tree fallen cross the River, and so we believ'd our Men had past that way; therefore here we sat down, and consulted what Course we should take.

They are bewild-er'd.

And having debated the Matter, it was concluded upon to cross the River, and seek the Path in which they had travelled: For this River running somewhat Northward in this Place we perswaded our selves we were past the main Ridge of Land that divided the North-part of the *Isthmus* from the South; and consequently that we were not very far from the North-Sea. Besides, we did not consider that the great Rains were the only Cause of the sudden Rising and Falling of the River; but thought the Tide

Tide might contribute to it, and that we were not very far from the Sea. We went therefore over the River by the Help of the Tree: But the Rain had made it so slippery, that 'twas with great Difficulty that we could get over it astride, for there was no walking on it: And tho' 4 of us got pretty well over, yet *Bowman*, who was the last, slipt off, and the Stream hurried him out of Sight in a Moment, so that we concluded he was drown'd. To add to our Affliction for the Loss of our Consort, we sought about for a Path, but found none; for the late Flood had fill'd all the Land with Mud and Oaze, and therefore since we could not find a Path, we returned again, and pass'd over the River on the same Tree by which we cross'd it at first; intending to pass down by the Side of this River, which we still thought discharged it self into the North-Sea. But when we were over, and had gone down with the Stream a Quarter of a Mile, we espy'd our Companion sitting on the Bank of the River; who, when we came to him, told us that the Violence of the Stream hurried him thither, and there, being in an Eddy, he had Time to consider where he was; and that by the Help of some Boughs that hung in the Water, he had got out. This Man had at this time 400 Pieces of Eight at his Back: He was a weakly Man, a Taylor by Trade.

Here we lay all Night; and the next Day, being the 5th of our present Journey, we march'd further down by the Side of the River, thro' Thickets of hollow Bamboes and Brambles, being also very weak for want of Food: But Providence suffer'd us not to perish, tho' Hunger and Weariness had brought us even to Death's Door: For we found there a *Maccaw* Tree, which afforded us Berries, of which we eat greedily; and having therewith somewhat satisfied our Hunger, we carried a Bundle of

them away with us, and continued our march till Night.

They are
beset with
Rivers.

The next Day, being the 6th, we marched till 4 in the Afternoon, when we arrived at another River, which join'd with that we had hitherto coasted; and we were now inclos'd between them, on a little Hill at the Conflux of them. This last River was as wide and deep as the former; so that here we were put to a *Non-plus*, not being able to find means to ford either of them, and they being here too wide for a Tree to go a-crofs, unless a greater Tree than we were able to cut down; having no Tool with us but a Macheat or long Knife. This last River also we set by the Compass, and found it run due North: Which confirmed us in our mistake, that we were on the North-side of the main Ridge of Mountains; and therefore we resolv'd upon making two Bark-logs, to float us down the River, which we unanimously concluded would bring us to the North-Sea Coast. The Woods afforded us hollow Bamboes fit for our purpose; and we cut them into proper lengths, and tied them together with Twigs of a Shrub like a Vine, a great many on the Top of one Another.

They mi-
stake their
way.

Violent
Rains.

By that time we had finished our Bark-logs it was Night, and we took up our Lodging on a small Hill, where we gathered about a Cartload of Wood, and made a Fire, intending to set out with our Bark-logs the next Morning. But not long after Sun-set, it fell a Raining as if Heaven and Earth would meet; which Storm was accompanied with horrid Claps of Thunder, and such Flashes of Lightning, of a sulphurous Smell, that we were almost stifled in the open Air.

Great-
Floods.

Thus it continued till 12 a-Clock at Night; when to our great Terror, we could hear the Rivers roaring on both sides us; but 'twas so dark, that we could see nothing but the Fire we had made,
except

except when a flash of Lightning came. Then we could see all over the Hill, and perceive the Water approaching us; which in less than half an Hour carried away our Fire. This drove us all to our shifts, every Man seeking some means to save himself from the threatening Deluge. We also sought for small Trees to climb: For the place abounded with great Cotton Trees, of a prodigious bigness from the Root upward, and at least 40 or 50 Foot clear without Branches, so that there was no climbing up them.

For my own Part, I was in a great Consternation, and running to save my Life, I very opportunely met with a large Cotton Tree, which by some accident, or thro' Age, was become Rotten, and hollow on one Side; having a Hole in it at about the Height of 4 Foot from the Ground. I immediately got up it as well as I could: And in the Cavity I found a Knob, which serv'd me for a Stool; and there I sat down almost Head and Heels together, not having room enough to stand or sit upright. In this condition I sat wishing for Day: but being fatigued with Travel, though very hungry withal, and cold, I fell asleep: But was soon awaken'd by the Noise of great Trees which were brought down by the Flood; and came with such force against the Tree, that they made it shake.

When I awoke I found my Knees in the Water, though the lowest Part of my hollow Trunk was, as I said, 4 Foot above the Ground; and the Water was running as swift, as if 'twere in the middle of the River. The Night was still very Dark, but only when the flashes of Lightning came: Which made it so dreadful and terrible, that I forgot my Hunger, and was wholly taken up with praying to God to spare my Life. While I was praying and meditating thus on my sad Condition, I saw the Morning-Star appear; by which I knew that Day

The
Floods go
off.

was at hand: This cheared my drooping Spirits; and in less than half an Hour the Day began to dawn, the Rain and Lightning ceased, and the Waters abated, insomuch that by that time the Sun was up, the Water was gone off from my Tree.

Then I ventur'd out of my cold Lodging; but being stiff and the Ground slippery, I could scarce stand: Yet I made a shift to ramble to the Place where we had made our Fire, but found no Body there. Then I call'd out aloud, but was answer'd only with my own Eccho; which struck such Terror into me, that I fell down as dead, being oppress'd both with Grief and Hunger; this being the 7th Day of our Fast, save only the *Maccaw*-berries before related.

He meets
again with
his Com-
panions.

Being in this Condition, despairing of Comfort for want of my Consorts, I lay sometime on the wet Ground, till at last I heard a Voice hard by me which in some sort revived me; but especially when I saw Mr. *Hingson* one of my Companions, and the rest found us presently after; having all sav'd themselves by climbing small Trees. We greeted each other with Tears in our Eyes, and returned Thanks to God for our deliverance.

The first thing we did in the Morning was to look after our Bark-logs or Rafts which we had left tied to a Tree, in order to prosecute our Voyage down the River; but coming to the Place where we left them, we found them sunk and full of Water, which had got into the hollow of the Bamboes, contrary to our Expectation; for we thought they would not have admitted so much as Air, but have been like large Bladders full blown: But it seems there were Cracks in them which we did not perceive, and perhaps made in them by our Carelessness in working them; for the Vessels made of these hollow Bamboes are wont to hold Water very well.

This

This was a new Vexation to us, and how to proceed farther we knew not; but Providence still directed all for the better: For if we had gone down this River, which we afterwds understood to be a River that runs into the River of *Cheapo*, and so towards the Bay of *Panama* and the South Sea, it would have carried us into the midst of our Enemies, the *Spaniards*, from whom we could expect no Mercy.

The Neighbourhood of the Mountains, and Steepness of the Descent, is the cause that the Rivers rise thus suddenly after these violent Rains; but for the same Reason they as suddenly fall again.

But to return to my Story: being thus frustrated of our Design of going down the Stream, or of crossing either of these Rivers, by Reason of the sinking of our Bark-logs, we were glad to think of returning back to the *Indian* Settlement, and Coast-^{They are} ed up the River-side in the same Track we came ^{forc'd to} home by. As our Hunger was ready to carry our ^{return.} Eyes to any Object that might afford us some Relief, it hapned that we espied a Deer fast asleep: Which we design'd if possible to get, and in order to it we came so very near, that we might almost have thrown our selves on him: But one of our Men putting the Muzzle of his Gun close to him, and the shot not being wadded, tumbled out, just before the Gun went off, and did the Deer no hurt; but starting up at the Noise, he took the River and swam over. As long as our way lay by the River side, we made a shift to keep it well enough: But being now to take leave of the River, in order to seek for the *Indians* Habitation, we were much at a loss. This was the Eighth Day, and we had no Sustenance beside the *Maccaw-Berries* we had got, and the Pith of a *Bibby-Tree* we met with, which we split and eat very favourly.

After